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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,734	02/11/2004	Sherman Robert Alpert	YOR920030606US1 (163-25)	2809

24336 7590 06/29/2006

KEUSEY, TUTUNJIAN & BITETTO, P.C.
20 CROSSWAYS PARK NORTH
SUITE 210
WOODBURY, NY 11797

EXAMINER	
MAHMOOD, REZWANUL	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2164	

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/776,734	ALPERT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rezwanul Mahmood	2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 February 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/11/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities:

2. In claim 4 line 1, the claim depends on itself. Examiner assumes the "The method as recited in claim 4" should be "The method as recited in claim 3".

3. In claim 22 line 2, "word distinct" should be "word distance".

4. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schramm-Apple (US Publication 2004/0078224).

7. With respect to claim 1, Schramm-Apple discloses a method for organizing document search results comprising the steps of:

identifying words having an association with search query terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query; Figure 6A);

categorizing features of the words in relation to the search query terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query; Figure 6A); and

presenting the results in at least one category in accordance with the features (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A).

8. With respect to claim 2, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the association between words and search query terms includes proximity between the words and the search query terms in a document (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query; Figure 6A).

9. With respect to claim 3, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of categorizing features includes the step of extracting features from a document based on the association between the words and the search query terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the

search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query; Figure 6A)).

10. With respect to claim 4, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 4, further comprising the step of selecting features from extracted features based upon a subject matter of the search query terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query; Figure 6A).

11. With respect to claim 5, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of presenting includes presenting the results in a table in accordance with the at least one category (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A).

12. With respect to claim 6, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a sort option to permit the results to be sorted and presented in accordance with one or more categories (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A; Figure 13).

13. With respect to claim 7, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of presenting includes presenting the results in a plot (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A; Figure 6B).

14. With respect to claim 8, Schramm-Apple discloses a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for organizing document search results as recited in claim 1 (Schramm-Apple: Figure 17).

15. With respect to claim 9, Schramm-Apple discloses a method for presenting search results, comprising the steps of:

searching one or more documents in a corpus of documents, to retrieve documents as a result a query term matching with a matched token in one or more of the documents (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 74, lines 1-10; Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A);

selecting at least one document term in a set of the document terms, the document terms being in proximity to the matched token (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A);

categorizing the selected document terms into at least one category Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A);

describing the categories using one or more category terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A); and

presenting a hit list of the documents with the one or more category terms associated with each of the documents (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

16. With respect to claim 10, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the step of selecting includes selecting document terms, which include one, or more terms within a defined word distance from the respective matched token (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

17. With respect to claim 11, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the step of selecting includes selecting one or more terms within a defined logical distance from the respective matched token (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

18. With respect to claim 12, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 11, wherein the logical distance includes related sentence locators (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

19. With respect to claim 13, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the proximity is variable based one of user selection and search context (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

20. With respect to claim 14, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the step of categorizing includes clustering document terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 95, lines 4-19; Figure 6A).

21. With respect to claim 15, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 9, wherein the step of categorizing includes using pre-defined category terms (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 74, lines 1-10).

22. With respect to claim 16, Schramm-Apple discloses the method as recited in claim 15, wherein the pre-defined categories are in category ontology (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 74, lines 1-10).

23. With respect to claim 17, Schramm-Apple discloses a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for presenting search results as recited in claim 9 (Schramm-Apple: Figure 17).

24. With respect to claim 18, Schramm-Apple discloses a document search presentation system, comprising:

a feature extractor, which extracts and selects features within documents provided in accordance with a search query (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Here the search controller provides the search query to the search engine and the search engine inherently extracts and selects features within documents according to the search query);

a feature categorizer coupled to the feature extractor, the feature categorizer

associating the features in the documents to categories in accordance with taxonomy categories (Schramm-Apple: Paragraph 105, lines 4-25; Figure 6A; Figure 12; Figure 13); and

a format, which presents at least a portion of the documents in association with a category of the taxonomy categories (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A; Here the search results are presented under different categories).

25. With respect to claim 19, Schramm-Apple discloses the system as recited in claim 18, wherein the format includes at least one of a table and a plot (Figure 6a; Figure 6B).

26. With respect to claim 20, Schramm-Apple discloses the system as recited in claim 18, wherein the format includes snippets associated with search terms and/or features (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A; Figure 6B).

27. With respect to claim 21, Schramm-Apple discloses the system as recited in claim 18, wherein the features include a word distance between document search terms matched tokens in the document (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A).

28. With respect to claim 22, Schramm-Apple discloses the system as recited in claim 21, wherein the word distinct includes a defined logical distance from the matched

token to the document search term (Schramm-Apple: Figure 6A; the search results under category Medical References).

Conclusion

29. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Kapur reference (US Publication 2004/0249801) teaches bout search systems that provide enhanced search functionality. The Krellenstein reference (US Patent 5,924,090) teaches about searching database and organizing results. The Kapur reference (US Patent 7,051,023) teaches about generating concept units from search results. The Levin reference (US Patent 6,434,556) teaches about visual representations of search results.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rezwanul Mahmood whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Rezwanul Mahmood
Ph # 571-272-5625

SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER